REMARKS

Claims 11-26 are pending in this application with claims 11, 15, 16, 20, 24 and 25 being amended by this amendment.

Objection to claim 15

Claim 15 is objected to for certain informalities. Claim 15 has been amended in accordance with the comments of the Examiner to correct a typographical error and change its dependency from claim 1, cancelled in a previous response, to claim 11, added in the previous response.

Claim 11–26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claim 11-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Collings (US Patent 5,828,402).

The present claimed invention recites a system for selectably controlling viewing and recording of television programs. The system includes at least one viewer profile establishing a set of limits for blocking images outside said limits from view; at least one limit, the limit being selected from the group comprising: program ratings, spending, channel, view time limits, time of day limits, image content ratings; and at least one override list including at least one override instruction applicable to said at least one viewer profile. The override list overrides at least one of the limits. A conflict resolver is also provided to resolve conflicts between override instructions when the override instructions are enabled. All independent claims include limitations directed to the conflict resolver. The claims have been amended to recite that the conflict resolver resolves conflicts that occur when the override instructions are enabled.

Collings neither discloses nor suggests "a conflict resolver for resolving conflicts between said override instructions wen the override instructions are enabled"

as in the present claimed invention. In the Advisory Action, the Examiner equates the conflict resolver of the present claimed invention to the feature of Collings which enables or disables all override instructions. In view of such, the claims of the present invention have been amended to require that the conflict resolver resolves conflicts between override instructions when the override instructions are enabled. Such is neither disclosed nor suggested by Collings. Collings neither discloses nor suggests a conflict resolver or method for resolving conflicts between override instructions when the override instructions are enabled as in the present claimed invention. Collings only discloses resolving conflicts between overrides by disabling all override instructions.

Additionally, in the Final Office Action, the Examiner cites column 17, lines 8-19 of Collings as well as Figure 5B as support for his contention that Collings includes such a conflict resolver. However, this passage merely discloses a menu which may be navigated by a user to individually enable or disable features of the apparatus. Enabling or disabling of the features of the apparatus are controlled by the user. In other words, the user is able to selectively either enable or disable the override commands. This is unlike the present claimed invention which includes the conflict resolver to resolve conflicts between two or more override instructions when the override instructions are enabled. As discussed in the present specification, at certain times, certain override commands may conflict with one another. The conflict resolver, based upon a preset override mode, e.g. "least restrictive", "most restrictive", resolves the conflict between the override commands, allowing the override most closely associated with the preset mode to control. An example, as discussed in the specification of the present claimed invention, of a situation in which a conflict between overrides exists is when a user has set an override for a predetermined amount of time during which a channel may be viewed which is about to expire and an additional override for viewing a specific program on the same channel which ends after the predetermined period expires. The conflict resolver allows one of the override commands to control viewing of the channel based upon the preset mode. Collings only allows a user to selectively enable or disable all override commands thereby not providing for any of the override commands to control viewing. Collings neither

discloses nor suggests means for resolving conflicts between overrides which conflict with one another when the override instructions are enabled.
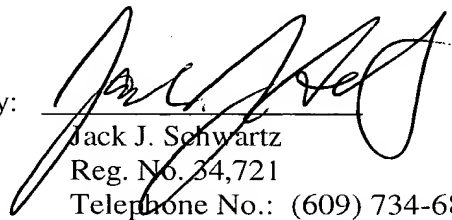
In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is not anticipated by Collings. It is thus further respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections, it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at the phone number below, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No additional fee is believed due. However, if an additional fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,
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Application No. 09/475,447　　　　　　　　　Attorney Docket No. RCA 89,894

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. §1.8

　　　I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Date:　8 June 2004　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　_C. Beulaczk_

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